

# At the Theatres.

## The George Fawcett Company.

Of late years the question of acting has become one largely of personality. Managers engage actors because they look and speak like the characters in the play. Arthur Wing Pinero once got one of his club waiters to play the part of a stage waiter, whom the author thought he resembled. Wm. K. Brady persuaded a total stranger in a smoking car on a Western train to join his company because his eyes told him that he was the type of man the play demanded.

All this, in the opinion of many, is rather to be regretted, not only because it kills versatility in young actors, but also because it often prevents them from securing parts for which they might be perhaps best suited. Mr. George Fawcett, in his company to open the Academy of Music on Monday, has made no such mistakes. It is claimed. There are four or five members of it quite capable and ready to play leading parts, if those parts are suitable to their personalities.

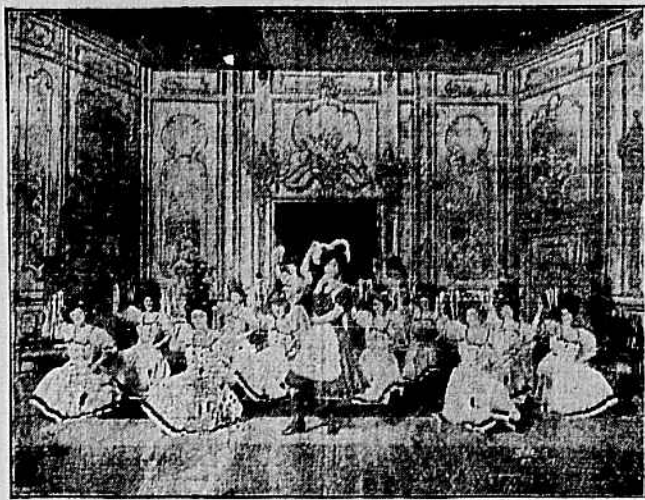
Of Miss Percy Haswell little need be said—she is Miss Percy Haswell, charming, beautiful and talented, requiring no further introduction to Richmond or any other city for that matter.

Miss Molly Brady has not been seen in Richmond for some years, her last appearance being with one of Mr. Fawcett's companies, of which Frank Gilmore and Grace Kimball were the principals. She was very successful in the characters she created, and became quite a favorite with the theatregoers of this city. Since then she has played a great many roles, and her art has developed wonderfully.

Miss Angela McCaul, the ingenue of the company, is a very charming young lady and a clever actress. She is the daughter of Col. John McCaul, who, with headquarters in Baltimore, sent out opera companies that included singers and comedians who are famous to-day. Miss McCaul's theatrical career began before she had finished with her schoolbooks. Her first engagement was with Richard Mansfield, then she was engaged by David Belasco, and was with Mrs. Leslie Carter when she scored a sensational success in "The Heart of Maryland" at the Herald Square Theatre, New York. Last season she was with Henrietta Croswell in "Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary," and "As You Like It."

Walter D. Greene, who plays the leading part in the opening bill, "Leah Kleschna," is looked upon as one of the coming young men of the stage. He has scored success after success in many widely different roles. He was with Louis Mann for two years, and with Wm. H. Crane in "The Merry Wives of Windsor," in Gillette's "Secret Service," "Shenandoah," and many other notable successes. He is very popular in Baltimore, where he has been playing this winter.

Regan Hughton has played so much in Richmond that he needs no advertising. His admirers will be glad to welcome him back. Since his last performance here, he played in David Belasco's



Scene in "Around the Clock" at the Bijou Theatre this week.

production of "The Heart of Maryland."

Thomas H. Thorne, it is said, comes of a fine old theatrical stock. His father is well known to theatre-goers, and his grandfather, Dick Thorne, was a manager in London for years. His uncle, Tom Thorne, will be remembered better probably than any of the family. It was he, who in partnership with David James and the famous Montague, produced such plays as "Our Boys." His family were very averse to Tom's going on the stage, but it may be said that they changed their opinions after he made his first emphatic hit with Mrs. Langtry in "The Degenerates." Since then Mr. Thorne has followed with many successes, appearing with Kyrie Bell in "Raffles" and Arnold Day in "Candida."

Robert Peyton Carter is an English actor, who has played with many well-known companies, among them Modjeska, Mansfield, and lately in the revival of "Charles's Aunt."

James Bevis is also a capable actor, and will become a favorite. Seats are now on sale for the opening, which will be "Leah Kleschna," one of the most talked-of plays of recent years. J. M. Barrie's quaint comedy of Scotch life, "The Little Minister," will follow, with Percy Haswell as the bewitching heroine, Lady Babbie. Among the plays which Mr. Fawcett is considering for the Richmond engagement are "Twelfth Night," "The Prodigal Son," "Noble" and "A Doll's House."

### At the Bijou.

"Around the Clock" will be the attraction at the Bijou this week, when the management will present the Ritchie London Comedy Company. These comedians are favorably known

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Cleanses and beautifies the teeth and purifies the breath. Used by people of refinement for over a quarter of a century. Convenient for tourists.

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days. By the time of the opening the board-walk will be finished, new bath-houses and office buildings erected, and a quantity of new concessions built in the park.

Though the management has not completed its list of attractions for the season, enough is known to say that the park will years past be better equipped in this respect than ever before.

By opening day not a trace of the recent fire will be left, and where the flames left only charred sticks standing new and prettier buildings will be seen. Much of the blank space in the grounds will be filled with new concessions fresh from Northern or even European pleasure resorts—amusement features which have proven of worth and merit.

In preparing for the real park opening the management have benefited by the experience of years past. These have enabled them to know the class of entertainments all Richmond and Manchester wants, and they have determined that this desire shall be gratified to the fullest extent, and that the season shall be a triumph in the annals of amusement enterprises of Richmond.

Some days before the opening date the management will announce the program for the season.

## TO KILL GAMBLING BILL.

### Bribery Charged in Connection With Bucket-Shop Law.

PITTSBURG, May 4.—The Pittsburgh Leader says: "The existence of a \$100,000 corruption fund, to defeat the passage of the Mesta anti-bucket shop bill after it has passed the House of Representatives and reaches the Senate, was made known to-day in Pittsburgh by legislators returning from the week's session at Harrisburg." The paper adds:

"Sworn evidence is said to have been obtained that \$20,000 has been raised in Pittsburgh as a part of the fund intended to be used in the State Senate to defeat the Mesta bill, and that the money back of the scheme are working like beavers to get the bill passed by the House so that it can be cornered in the Senate and the fund distributed there in an inner circle, where it will

## BOOZE FIGHTERS SECURE CHARTER

Corporation Commission Issues Papers to the Keeley Institute.

The State Corporation Commission yesterday issued a charter to "The Virginia Home of the Leslie E. Keeley Institute (Inc.)," and the official announcement given out by the commission states the objects and purposes of the corporation to be "to treat men patients afflicted with the booze habit."

Here is an outline of the charter as given out by the commission: The Virginia Home of the Leslie E. Keeley Institute (Inc.), Richmond, E. V. Farinholt, president; H. A. Atkinson, vice-president; O. D. Pitts, secretary and treasurer—all of Richmond. Capital stock, maximum, \$50,000; minimum, \$25,000. Objects and purposes: To treat men patients afflicted with the booze habit.

The concern takes over the Keeley Institute in this city and will continue to conduct it at the place where it is now located. The institute has been in operation in Richmond for about ten years, having been brought here from Ashland.

## MEETINGS THIS WEEK.

### City Fathers Have a Plenty to Keep Them Busy.

The City Fathers will have a fairly busy week before the shades of Saturday night set in.

To-morrow evening at 8 o'clock the Common Council will hold an important session, it being the monthly meeting for May.

At 7:30 two committees will be in session, one on Police Elections and Schools and one on Printing and Claims.

Tuesday night at 7:30 the Committee on Markets will hold a business session, and at 8 o'clock the James River Improvement Committee will hold forth. At 8 o'clock the special committee to consider the Mayor's charges against the Finance Committee will resume discussion of the subject in hand, and it is understood that the doors will be laid wide open for the introduction of testimony.

Wednesday night at 8 o'clock the Committee on Annexed Territory will hold a somewhat important meeting. Several subcommittees will probably have meetings during the week which have not yet been definitely settled.

## Enjoyable Program.

The moving pictures and illustrated songs shown at The Theatre the past week have pleased all who have visited the cozy little theatre that has been opened at No. 590 East Broad Street. The program is changed every Mon-

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RICHMOND, 611 E. Broad St.

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## ACADEMY OF MUSIC

GALA OPENING MONDAY, MAY 6th.

THE SEASON'S SUPREME EVENT.

### CURTAIN

Matinees, 2:30. Evenings, 8:30.

### PERCY HASWELL AND THE GEO. FAWCETT CO.

SPRING & SUMMER SEASON

### CARRIAGES

Matinees, 5 P.M. Evenings 11 P.M.

FAWCETT and DEVAN

PRESENT

## Percy Haswell

AND THE

GEORGE FAWCETT COMPANY

IN

## "Leah Kleschna."

By C. M. S. McLELLAN.

ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE SUCCESSES OF RECENT YEARS

MATINEES Wednesday and Saturday.

PRICES: Matinee, 15c, 25c, and 35c. Evenings, 15c, 25c, 35c and 50c.

NEXT ATTRACTION

## "The Prodigal Son"

By HALL CAINE.

## BIJOU ALL THE WEEK

Matinees Tues., Thurs., Sat.

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The Greatest Laughing Show in the World. AMERICAN (A Double Company) ENGLISH. Positively No Increase in Prices. Stage on a Stage. Novelty at Last. Unique Departure in the Amusement Field. Musical Comedy, With Real Music. Revue of Pretty Girls, Talented and Capable Company.

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Headed by the World's Foremost Funmakers.

Ritchie's London Comedy Co.

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a revelation to modern science. It is the only scientific and practical way to destroy hair. Don't waste time experimenting with electrolysis, X-ray and depilatories. These are offered you on the BARE WORD of the operators and manufacturers. DeMiracle is not. It is the only method which is endorsed by physicians, surgeons, dermatologists, medical journals and prominent magazines.

DeMiracle mailed, sealed in plain wrapper, for \$1.00. Your money back without question (no red tape) if it fails to do all that is claimed for it.

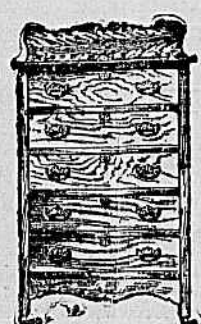
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Scene in "Leah Kleschna," in which Miss Percy Haswell will appear at the Academy of Music this week.

of the entire scene. Mr. Ritchie, as the inebricate or the gilded youth who warships at the shrine of Bacchus, is faithfully, perhaps, for his own good, occupies a seat in one of the boxes. Dressed in evening clothes and looking the bedraggled "swell" tippler to the very life, Mr. Ritchie goes through many bits of stage business and mimicry. As the "inebricate" he watches the various performers in their different specialties. Some of the turns, of course, displease him, and he shows his disapproval by personally conducting the performers off the stage. Naturally, this being a palpable violation of "theatrical" ethics, the would-be censor is brought to heel and handled in a manner that causes him to retaliate in kind. This is the cue for some clever comedy, and Mr. Ritchie and his fellow-players carry themselves with flying colors. "Around the Clock" is by Mr. Frank Huffman, with music and lyrics by L. O. Smith and Sebastian Hillier.

### Season at Idlewood.

Idlewood Park closed last night and will remain closed ten days before the fall season opening will take place on Thursday, May 16th. The temporary opening for the carnival company ended last night, and to-morrow the final work of getting the park ready for the regular summer season will be on in earnest.

Under the direction of an expert landscape artist a small army of florists and gardeners have been at work several weeks preparing to remodel and really remake Idlewood. In about ten days results of the work will be seen. Then little, if any, of the Idlewood of former days will remain, and what is left will have been so improved and beautified that only the most observant will be able to recall the old in viewing the new. Only the name and pleasant memories will remain unchanged.

In the grounds new walks, plots, flower beds, flowers, and floral designs will be the order of the season. The hand of the "miracle worker" will be seen everywhere. Where nothing but barren sand and gravel has been heretofore bright, green grass, artistic floral designs, beautiful and fragrant flowers will be seen by the patrons of this season.

The merry music of the saw and the chorus of the myriads of carpenters' hammers will be the only sounds emanating from the park for some

do the most good to the smallest number. A prominent Allegheny politician and office-holder, closely affiliated with the Allegheny county combine is said to be the stakeholder and distributor of this fund.

"It is stated that members of the House are ready to produce testimony on Monday night that such a fund is in existence, and the name of the Allegheny official holding it may be revealed then in a manner that will be startling."

"Representative W. L. McCullagh, of Pittsburgh, is one of the members returning home who has heard the stories of the corruption fund."

"Besides the \$20,000 donation to the fund from Pittsburgh, it is said that bucket shippers of other cities of the State are contributing liberally. Some reports place the total fund at \$100,000."

A great new harbor is to be constructed at Rotterdam at a cost of \$1,750,000, for which the municipal authorities are issuing a loan.

day and Thursday, and runs continuously from 10 A. M. to 11 P. M. Any one wishing to spend an enjoyable half hour will find it time and a nickel well spent in going there, as the well-pleased crowds that are taxing the place to its capacity every afternoon and evening go to prove.

### Call for Salisbury Pastor.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) SALISBURY, N. C., May 4.—Rev. C. G. Wells, pastor of the First Baptist Church, at Kinston, has been called to the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Moreaville, Iredell county. He went to that place to-day, where he will preach to the congregation. He is being urged to accept the call extended him, and is inclined to do so.

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